



Exeter Christian Reformed Church

332 Huron Street West
Exeter, Ontario, NOM 1S2
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Website: www.exetercrc.on.ca

Pastor: Jay Crossen
Pastor's Email: pastorjay@exetercrc.on.ca
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs, 9am-12pm
Publishing deadline: Thursday, 9:00 am
Administrative E-mail: bulletin@exetercrc.on.ca

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Worship: 10am

Teacher: Jay Crossen

Musician: Steve

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

- * Call to Worship
- * Song: **O Worship the King** LUYH #2
- * God's Greeting
- * Song: **Come Holy Ghost** LUYH #232

God Renews Us in His Grace

Prayer of Confession

God's Assurance

Song: **You, O Lord, Are a Shield About Me** LUYH #382

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Message

Children's Song: **Ha – La – La - La**

Children aged 3 – Grade 6 are dismissed for Sunday School

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: **Acts 2:42-47, Philippians 4:2-9, Ephesians 4:29-5:4, Colossians 3:12-14**

Message: **Why Church? We Gather for Community**

- * Song of Response: **Help Us Accept Each Other** LUYH #318

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayers of God's People

Offering: This week the Deacons will be using your gifts to support the **Christian School**

Bursary Fund. Etransfers may be sent to ecrcgiving@gmail.com

Offertory: **I'll Never Let Go of Your Hand**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

- * God's Sending and Blessing
- * Song: **To God Be the Glory** LUYH #604

* Indicates to please stand if you are able

LUYH stands for Lift Up Your Hearts (the red song book in the pews)

Gathering for Worship

LARGE PRINT copies of the Lift Up Your Hearts hymn book are available for use during worship. They are located on the bookcase in the foyer next to the administrator's office. Large print copies of songs not in LUYH are available from the ushers.

Nursery and Sunday School programs will be available during the church service for those parents who wish their children to participate. **We have classes for children aged 3 – Grade 6.** Children will be dismissed during the worship gathering. The Education Committee, Sunday School, and Nursery, with the support of Council, have developed a plan to safely care for your children.

Exeter CRC strives to be a healthy community. If you are feeling unwell in any way join our worship gathering on-line. We continue to worship together as a community of God's people. **YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3yYa4ze>



Exeter CRC is accessible for those with hearing impairment. If you are hard of hearing, please have an usher direct you to the sound booth for an assistive device.

From the Deacons

The offering this Sunday and the week ahead is for **Christian School Bursary Fund.**

October 6: World Renew

October 13: Food Bank – Food drive

October 20: Sanctuary London



The Deacons will collect your offering during the worship service. You can also respond with your offering by e-transfer to ecrcgiving@gmail.com. Please state in the memo the cause(s) you are supporting. Coupons for the offering are still available. Please ask one of the deacons for assistance if you are interested in buying coupons.

From the Deacons: Thanksgiving Day is fast approaching. A day set aside to remind us how blessed we are as a congregation and yet we should be thankful each and every day for the blessings we have, but there are those who have no idea where their next meal is going to come from. The Deacons are having a food drive to help the local Foodbank provide food for those in need. Please bring donate food and sundries to the church by Thanksgiving Day weekend. There will be a designated area in the church to place your donations and the deacons will have all donations delivered to the Foodbank. Thank you for blessing others in need.



MemberCare+ is a free counselling program for Exeter CRC members provided through By Peaceful Waters. Please call **519-886-8577** or email mail@bypeacefulwaters.ca for more information.

Our Church Family

Calendar of Events: One of the features of our website is a calendar of meetings and events to help keep you up to date. Click on this [link](#) to have a look at everything happening at ECRC.

Holly Meinen is now at home recuperating from her chemo treatments. Please continue in prayer for her.

For those who have a prayer request or are sharing a thanksgiving, please feel free to include it on the church's Facebook page, or please contact your elder or the church office if you wish to include it in the bulletin or The Bridge App.

Exeter CRC Announcements

Congregational Meeting: Information packages for the congregational meeting on October 3 are in your mailbox. If you cannot attend this meeting it is **vitaly important** that you fill out a proxy ballot and forward it to a council member or someone who will vote on your behalf. Proxy ballots, and additional meeting packages are available from Joe Lubbers or contact the office.

Alpha: We have been teased over the last several weeks that Alpha is coming to Exeter.... I am sure you have been excited to hear a few more details. This is the first time that several churches in our community will be offering Alpha at the same time... how amazing is that....

Alpha is a 10-week series exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. There is no pressure, no follow-up and no charge; it's just an open, informal, and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together. We hope to begin Friday Oct 4 from 6-7:30 we will start with sharing a meal together... then watching a short video and then a time of reflection. This is an invitation for everyone invite your friends and neighbours. Childcare will be provided. What a great way to connect with each other and our community. If you feel lead to be involved in this ministry in any capacity, there is an opportunity to attend an Alpha Training Night Sept 25 @ 7pm at 63 Main Street South Exeter (Vital Point). This night will be filled with the training and equipping of Table Host/Helpers, prayer team, and food care teams. Praying that all those who attend may be ignited in their faith. For the next 2 Sundays there will be a table set up in the foyer to sign up and ask any questions you may have.

Christmas Choir: Do you love to sing? Especially Christmas songs??? Please join our Christmas choir! Practices will be Monday evenings at 7:30 starting Oct 28. For more information and to have a sneak peak at this year's cantata, please come to a quick and informal meeting in the sanctuary following the service on Sunday, October 20. All are welcome!

Cadets: We are gearing up for a new season. We will kick off this year with an end of summer camping trip full of our favorite Cadeting activities and a new one or two. All boy's gr 4 - 8 are welcome to join us plus we would love to see you bring a friend or a dad or both. You should receive an email with details, but if you do **not, Please See Counsellor Derek Schreuders**. The rest of the year will have us meeting on Thursday nights at 7:00 at the church. Plans are already underway for a great season and some new events.

GEMS REGIONAL COUNSELOR TRAINING on Saturday, October 19/24 at Stratford CRC. Please register at <https://bit.ly/GEMSACTS2024> for a day of learning, sharing, and creating in fun-filled workshops. Come meet the new GEMS Executive Director, Wendy Hammond! Our speaker for the day is Dr. Jane Sinden. This training day is open to all current GEMS Counselors, C.I.T.s, and women interested in learning more about being a GEMS Counselor. Please speak to Karen Knip for more information.

Christmas Bureau: Plans are underway to, once again, host the Christmas Bureau. The new format of the Christmas Bureau requires a small team of individuals who can accept donations November 25-29 and then distribute gift cards December 2-6. If you are interested in learning more about the Christmas Bureau or if you would like to help in any way, please contact Sadie (519-857-2783).

Coffee with Pastor Jay: I am excited to get to know you! One way we can start to get to know each other is over coffee (or in my case, tea, or water). Join me for coffee time in my office and tell me a bit about yourself! There is a sign-up outside my office.

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

Workshop: Helping without Harming in Church Benevolence

Date: October 3, 2024, 7:00 pm

Location: Clinton CRC

Facilitator: Mark Vanderwees

Target participants: Deacons, church leadership, anyone who has a passion for helping.

Time: This workshop will take about 2.5 hours.

Many churches struggle when faced with requests for financial help. Often the church does not have a clear understanding of how to appropriately respond and react by addressing the 'immediate' need. In many situations, the response might only superficially address the real underlying root causes. This could contribute to greater dependency, where the church might be playing an enabling role rather than an empowering role. This workshop will help the church be better prepared to walk alongside individuals or households, bringing positive and long-lasting changes to their lives and ultimately contributing to them being restored to all that God intends them as image bearers.

Huron Christian School Auction: Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 23, 2024 for the 37th Annual Auction in the school gym, with the silent auction beginning online on Thursday, November 21 and closing Friday, November 22. Please note there is no in person silent auction. Advertising, financial contribution, and donations of items or services would be greatly appreciated to make this event a successful fundraiser for HCS. Could you or your business donate an item, a service or an advertisement? What about donating an item from your favourite local business? Please send completed forms back to the school no later than October 22, 2024. Forms and electronic copies of advertising can also be sent to auction@huronchristianschool.ca. Thank you for your support.

Sanctuary London invites you to join them for their second annual fall fundraiser at Fieldcroft Estate in beautiful Komoka. Join us for a fun-filled evening as we learn about and support the important work of Sanctuary London. An evening of live music, good food and a live auction. Come meet our staff, board and volunteers. Tickets are \$100 per person and include a \$60 tax receipt. Click the link for tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/jeans-and-jackets-a-fundraiser-in-support-of-sanctuary-london-tickets-952736800417?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Family Outreach Ontario: Special Event: Family Outreach Ontario invites you to an information evening on Friday, September 27 at Georgetown Christian Reformed Church (11611 Trafalgar Rd, Georgetown). Our Executive Director, John Kowtecky, will be giving an educational presentation on Addiction: An Overview, and Gerard will be sharing his personal story. Please plan to attend and tell others about it as well. A collection will be taken to cover our costs.

7:15 - Doors open/Meet & Greet with refreshments; 7:30 - 9:00 - Presentation and Q&A period; 9:00-9:30 - Opportunity to talk with Mr. Kowtecky and other Family Outreach members.

Take one hour of this year's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (Monday, Sept. 30) to learn and discuss opportunities and challenges for CRC churches in Canada to be part of the on-going ministry of justice and reconciliation. Join in a Zoom discussion with three leaders in this area of ministry in Canada. (9 AT; 8 ET; 7 CT; 6 MT; 5 PT) "Reconciliation can never take place without justice." Retired Justice Murray Sinclair, in his new book: Who We Are: Four Questions for Life and Nation. Zoom link: www.towardcrccanada.net/zoom-meetings-presentations.

Moving Forward in Faith Conference, November 15 & 16 (Burlington, ON) - Church members and leaders of all ages are invited for an inspiring event you don't want to miss! God is doing great things within our region, our churches, and our denomination. We are chosen by God to walk alongside His vision for the world and play our part in its transformation. Diaconal Ministries Canada and Resonate Global Mission have put together a Friday evening and all-day Saturday event at Compass Point Church in Burlington, ON. Join us for worship, a plenary session by best-selling author and disciple-maker, Caesar Kalinowski, and a variety of workshops related to young adult ministry, mission in your own backyard, Indigenous ministry, being a deacon, and more! We promise there is a workshop for (almost) everyone. **REGISTER TODAY:** <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/moving-forward-faith>. Hotel discounts are available until October 8th. (Register before Monday, October 14 and receive a free copy of Caesar's newest book, "Transformed: A New Way of Being Christian".)

This Week: September 29 – October 5

<p><u>Sunday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Worship: 10am ➤ Sunday School 	<p><u>Monday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ GEMS planning meeting – 7pm 	<p><u>Tuesday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nursing Home Singers – Exeter Villa – 7pm ➤ Council & Youth Baseball Game 	<p><u>Wednesday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 	<p><u>Thursday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Congregational Meeting – 7pm ➤ Council Meeting – 8:30pm 	<p><u>Friday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cadet Camping ➤ Alpha: 6pm 	<p><u>Saturday</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cadet Camping
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SERVING SCHEDULE

	September 29	October 6	October 13 (Lord's Supper)	October 15 (Thanksgiving)
Elder	Joe Lubbers	Jason Mulder	George Poortinga	Gerard Steenbeek
Deacon	Connor VanSoest, Joy DeWeerd	Joy DeWeerd, Harry Knip	Harry Knip, Dianne Soer	Dianne Soer, Connor VanSoest
Coffee Clean-Up	Anne Zwaan Derek & Sharon Bakelaar	Matt & Jess Bakelaar Eugene & April Boersma	Ken & Trina Boersma Nathan Boersma	Darren & Janelle Bouman Dave & Joan Brady
Greeters	Sandra Newton, Norma Vanderlaan	Kathryn Langendyk, Jean Vanderlaan	Albert Hummel, Ann Zwaan	Wendy Westerik, Wibbina Toonk
Ushers	Gerald Kodde, Colton Mulder	Joe Lubbers, Tim DeWeerd	Jason Mulder, Sylvia Hulshof	George Poortinga, Cliff Knip
Children's Storyteller	Marg Knip	Karen Knip	No message (Lord's Supper)	
Nursery	Sheila Vanderlaan, Wilma Visscher, Averi Mulder	Anne Zwaan, Curtis Heyink, Sam Vanderlaan	Leah Branderhorst, Michelle Meinen, Sydney Lubbers	Volunteers
Sunday School	Kassidey Heyink, Angela Nyman, Joy DeWeerd, Tanya Steenbeek	Sylvia Hulshof, Michelle Meinen, Jolene DeBoer, Laura Garritsen, Janelle Bowman	Sylvia Hulshof, Michelle Meinen, Jolene DeBoer, Laura Garritsen, Janelle Bowman	